

Town of Liberty Grove
Minutes of the Town Board meeting on May 6, 2026
(this meeting was correctly posted)

Agenda:

1. Call to order
2. Declaration of quorum followed by the Pledge of Allegiance
3. Approve Agenda
4. Approve minutes from 4/15/26
5. Public input
6. Committee Reports
7. Payment of bills
 - a. LGUD#1
 - b. Town
8. Administrator Report
9. Update on Rowley's Bay Resort clean-up
10. Discussion of potential next steps re: Gus Klenke's Garage property.
11. Liquor Licenses
12. Operator Licenses
13. Short Term Rental licenses
14. Correspondence
15. Future meeting(s)
16. Adjourn

Chairman Goss called the meeting to order at 6:00pm. Supervisors Sylvann Welcome, Janet Johnson, Dan Watts, and Cathy Ward were present. Administrator Buckingham was also in attendance along with Clerk/Treasurer Pamela Donart-Welcome, Consultant Bud Kalms and 4 members of the public.

Ward moved, Johnson seconded to approve the agenda as posted. **Carried 5 – 0**

Ward moved, Welcome seconded to approve the 4/15/26 minutes as presented. **Carried 4 – 0**
Goss abstained.

Public input: Dan Watts welcomed new Supervisor Sylvann Welcome.

Committee Reports: Ward reported that she is exploring the timeline for the accumulation of over-budget room tax dollars that the Door County Tourism Zone collects and returns to the local municipalities, and how the municipalities are using their 30% share of the funds.

Johnson moved, Goss seconded to approve the payment of LGUD#1 bills totaling \$195.49.
Carried 5 – 0

Goss moved, Ward seconded to approve the payment of Town bills totaling \$17,025.03.
Carried 5 – 0

Administrator's Report: Administrator Buckingham reported that the 2026 paving is well underway, and announced that the Town was awarded a grant to re-imburse up to 49.88% of the cost to pave North Bay Road up to a max of \$271,550.16. The paving projects should be

completed by May 15th. He then shared that the request for bids to chip-seal selected roads will be published shortly, opened by the Highway Committee at their next meeting, so they can have a recommendation for Board approval. The Town Maintenance Crew are now attending to Spring clean-up tasks at the Cemeteries and Parks. The floating pier has been installed at the Ellison Bay Marina, and two other pier sections were found to need repair. The Ellison Bay way-finding sign near the visitor center was repaired after this winter's storm damage. Spectrum is installing a public Wi-Fi option at the Ellison Bay Community Park / Women's Club, to help special community event vendors set up their credit card processors. The Sewer Rate litigation phase before the Public Service Commission is near completion, and a final determination could take up to several more weeks.

Regarding the **clean-up at the former Rowley's Bay Resort property**, Buckingham reported that asbestos abatement and erosion control were completed, and Best Enterprises, LLC have started building demolition and will be completing the process over the course of the coming weeks.

Regarding **next steps with the Gus Klenke's Garage property**, Bud Kalms shared the history of how the Town acquired the property, and Johnson suggested the Administrator reach out to a representative of the Liberty Grove Historical Society to see if they have an interest in moving the building to their site for restoration as a possible window museum before any further action is taken.

Goss moved, Ward seconded to approve the Temporary Class B wine & Class B beer applications for both Gary Kemp and Barb Zekin for Ellison Bay Day, and the LGHS Fish Boil & Tractor Show. **Carried 5 – 0**

Goss moved, Johnson seconded to approve the Operator Licenses submitted on May 6th, 2026. **Carried 4 – 0.** Welcome abstained.

Ward moved, Goss seconded to renew the Short-Term Rental license applications as presented, noting that the application for 1509 North Bay Lane would not be subject to the 180-day limit. **Carried 4 – 1.**

Correspondence: Administrator Buckingham shared a notice from the Wisconsin Historical Society informing that the Tostenson Pier Archaeological District near the south shore of Hedgehog Harbor in the Town of Liberty Grove is being considered by the Wisconsin Historic Preservation Review Board on May 15th for nomination to the Wisconsin State Register of Historic Places and the National Register of Historic Places; an email from Pamela Bush, the Door County Transportation Manager notifying of an upcoming *Driven to Succeed Transportation & Career Fair* at the John Miles County Park on June 17th; correspondence from the Village of Ephraim advising of a Plan Committee meeting on Tuesday, April 28th at 7 PM to consider a conditional use request for construction of a 2,400 square foot metal commercial woodworking workshop on a private parcel adjacent to Liberty Grove; the minutes from the

Sister Bay Liberty Grove Library Commission 4/15/26 meeting are available for review; an invitation from the Wisconsin Towns Association for their May 15th Door County unit meeting taking place at the Community Center on Washington Island; a notice of a Door County Land Use and Resource Planning Committee presentation regarding zoning and building permit violations; a letter from the Wisconsin Humane Society president & CEO, Allison Fotch, thanking you for your generous gift of \$5,000 to the WHS Door County Campus.

Future Meeting: The Board of Review will have a “meeting to adjourn to a later date” at 5:45pm on May 20, 2026 followed shortly after by the next regular Town Board meeting scheduled to begin at 6:00pm.

Johnson moved, Goss seconded to adjourn at 6:58pm. **Carried 5 – 0**

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Donart-Welcome, Clerk/Treasurer
Approved on 5/20/26